

## THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

January 2012 – Week 3

Air Date: January 15 – January 21 (Sunday – Saturday)



### TITLE: BASEMENT EMPIRE

JANUARY 1874 AND IT'S A GUBERNATORIAL GRUDGE MATCH.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

JANUARY 15, 1874. AUSTIN. RECONSTRUCTION HAS TORN TEXAS APART. TODAY, AFTER A CONTENTIOUS ELECTION, DEMOCRAT RICHARD COKE IS SWORN IN AS GOVERNOR IN THE HOUSE CHAMBER OF THE STATE CAPITOL.

PROBLEM IS, THERE'S ANOTHER GOVERNOR IN THE BASEMENT. REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR E.J. DAVIS SAYS COKE'S ELECTION IS ILLEGAL SO HE'S STILL IN CHARGE. ARMED GUARDS HELP HIM HOLD THE BASEMENT.

THE STANDOFF LASTS FOR TWO DAYS AS DAVIS PLEADS FOR U.S. PRESIDENT GRANT TO SEND TROOPS TO KEEP HIM IN POWER. WHEN GRANT SAYS NO, THE STANDOFF IS OVER.

WITH THE END OF DAVIS' BASEMENT EMPIRE CAME THE END OF RECONSTRUCTION IN TEXAS. THE CIVIL WAR WAS FINALLY OVER.

TEXAS HAD TWO GOVERNORS 138 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

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Carl H. Moneyhon, "DAVIS, EDMUND JACKSON," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fda37>), accessed January 05, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"Edmund J. Davis," *Wikipedia* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edmund\\_J.\\_Davis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edmund_J._Davis)), accessed January 05, 2012.

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